

WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE



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Taxable Retail Sales Drop Less Than One Percent in Fourth Quarter 2001

OLYMPIA, Wash., April 11, 2002 — Taxable retail sales reported by Washington businesses during the fourth quarter of 2001 dropped 0.9 percent over the previous year's levels, according to figures posted online today by the Washington State Department of Revenue.

A total of \$22.26 billion in sales were reported during the crucial October through December shopping period, compared to \$22.46 billion during the last three months of 2000.

The decline was far from uniform. King County and some cities within it experienced larger declines, while sales were up in many other areas of the state. King County comprised 41.5 percent of total sales, so negative results there offset gains elsewhere in the state.

While overall taxable retail sales were slightly down, the retail trade component actually was up 2.8 percent. Retail trade includes retail stores, but excludes services and volatile sectors such as manufacturing and construction.

Overall taxable retail sales dropped 6.8 percent in King County, but was up 6.2 percent in Pierce County and 1.4 percent in Snohomish County. Two other urban counties, Spokane and Clark, were up 1.2 and 1.5 percent, respectively. Taxable retail sales were up in 25 of 39 counties.

Among major cities, Seattle was down 6.2 percent and Everett declined 1.9 percent, but Tacoma was up 7.5 percent. Spokane dropped 1.9 percent and Vancouver was off 2.3 percent.

Other King County cities were hardest-hit, with Bellevue down 12.4 percent, Redmond off 14.1 percent, and Tukwila off 18.3 percent. Travel-dependent SeaTac experienced an 18.5 percent decline.

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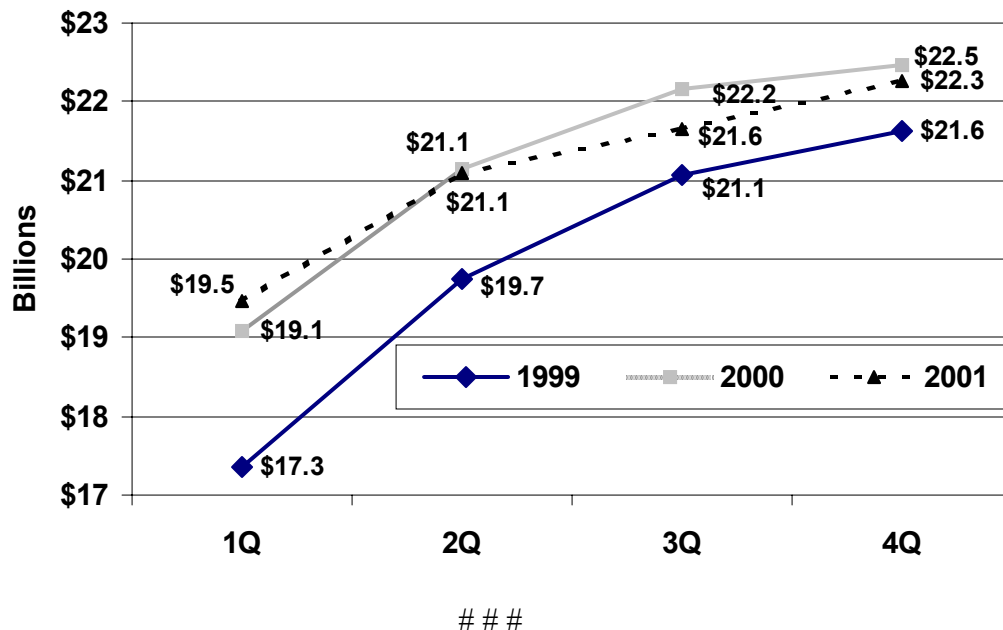
Yet sales were up in many other cities, with Bremerton up 14.6 percent and all three of the Tri-Cities showing double-digit gains. Twenty-five of 50 selected cities recorded gains.

Retail trade dropped 2.5 percent in King County, but was up 8.3 percent in Pierce County and 4.7 percent in Snohomish County. Spokane County was up 4.8 percent in retail trade while Clark County rose 5.4 percent. Thirty-one of 39 counties showed gains in retail trade.

Thirty-one of 50 selected cities showed gains in retail trade. Seattle showed a 5.3 percent loss, while Bellevue declined 9.8 percent and Redmond was down 6.8 percent. Tukwila's retail trade was down 3.7 percent compared to an 18.3 percent decline in overall taxable retail sales. Similarly, SeaTac's retail trade dropped 8.8 percent compared to an 18.5 percent decline for all taxable sales. Spokane was down 1.7 percent and Vancouver was up 1.1 percent.

Results for all counties and cities can be accessed by visiting the statistical reports section of the Department of Revenue's web site at <http://dor.wa.gov>. Look under the quarterly business review page for the fourth quarter and earlier results. Users also can build their own tables by county or city.

Statewide Taxable Retail Sales



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TAXABLE RETAIL SALES BY COUNTY

All Taxable Retail Sales*

Retail Trade Only**

(\$000) add three digits to all figures

	<u>4th Quarter 00</u>	<u>4th Quarter 01</u>	<u>Change</u>	<u>4th Quarter 00</u>	<u>4th Quarter 01</u>	<u>Change</u>
Adams	\$38,929	44,228	13.6%	\$11,192	\$15,071	34.7%
Asotin	35,908	41,331	15.1%	23,350	23,868	2.2%
Benton	437,786	502,329	14.7%	271,007	304,617	12.4%
Chelan	238,535	249,296	4.5%	131,949	140,262	6.3%
Clallam	170,114	180,148	5.9%	97,234	103,645	6.6%
Clark	906,674	919,871	1.5%	437,247	460,795	5.4%
Columbia	7,586	7,135	-5.9%	2,430	2,549	4.9%
Cowlitz	274,544	269,632	-1.8%	150,687	153,300	1.7%
Douglas	67,233	78,696	17.0%	44,002	48,967	11.3%
Ferry	7,851	9,629	22.6%	3,147	3,195	1.5%
Franklin	148,524	166,819	12.3%	63,258	72,789	15.1%
Garfield	3,602	4,403	22.2%	1,592	1,599	0.4%
Grant	183,601	198,671	8.2%	92,241	93,974	1.9%
Grays Harbor	172,885	167,059	-3.4%	94,618	92,602	-2.1%
Island	144,095	146,720	1.8%	64,168	68,679	7.0%
Jefferson	70,434	68,426	-2.9%	28,155	27,756	-1.4%
King	9,908,360	9,238,295	-6.8%	4,616,164	4,499,200	-2.5%
Kitsap	640,642	676,096	5.5%	407,144	446,038	9.6%
Kittitas	112,511	103,630	-7.9%	49,290	54,929	11.4%
Klickitat	30,549	41,345	35.3%	9,367	9,896	5.6%
Lewis	238,656	253,217	6.1%	114,100	120,132	5.3%
Lincoln	16,982	16,742	-1.4%	5,679	5,603	-1.3%
Mason	84,772	92,958	9.7%	45,574	48,660	6.8%
Okanagan	83,186	81,811	-1.7%	43,250	44,819	3.6%
Pacific	33,273	31,869	-4.2%	14,602	14,571	-0.2%
Pend Oreille	14,137	13,740	-2.8%	5,442	5,811	6.8%
Pierce	2,187,720	2,322,545	6.2%	1,239,175	1,341,913	8.3%
San Juan	63,185	63,978	1.3%	19,534	18,658	-4.5%
Skagit	431,415	466,550	8.1%	268,180	291,064	8.5%
Skamania	15,753	14,329	-9.0%	2,711	2,797	3.2%
Snohomish	2,080,175	2,109,027	1.4%	1,182,572	1,238,253	4.7%
Spokane	1,494,890	1,512,388	1.2%	826,287	866,349	4.8%
Stevens	61,391	67,744	10.3%	32,475	35,359	8.9%
Thurston	669,836	730,323	9.0%	383,688	430,042	12.1%
Wahkiakum	4,917	3,881	-21.1%	1,484	1,262	-15.0%
Walla Walla	141,991	146,739	3.3%	61,602	66,897	8.6%
Whatcom	581,095	562,008	-3.3%	316,000	324,049	2.5%
Whitman	91,461	88,247	-3.5%	33,636	35,348	5.1%
Yakima	561,478	563,495	0.4%	316,184	315,232	-0.3%
TOTALS	\$22,456,676	\$22,255,350	-0.9%	\$11,510,417	\$11,830,550	2.8%

*All taxable retail sales includes retailing, services, contracting (construction), manufacturing, transportation, communications, utilities, wholesaling, finance, insurance, real estate and others. Sales taxes from contracting can be highly volatile.

**Retail Trade includes taxable sales of building materials and hardware, general merchandise, food, auto dealers, apparel, furnishings, eating/drinking places, and miscellaneous retail stores. This figure better represents consumer purchases.

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TAXABLE RETAIL SALES BY SELECTED CITIES

	All Taxable Retail Sales*			Retail Trade Only**		
	(\$000) add three digits to all figures					
	4th Quarter 00	4th Quarter 01	Change	4th Quarter 00	4th Quarter 01	Change
Aberdeen	\$87,793	\$87,089	-0.8%	\$63,347	\$62,648	-1.1%
Auburn	359,264	348,048	-3.1%	197,985	208,219	5.2%
Bellevue	1,263,358	1,106,070	-12.4%	696,424	628,157	-9.8%
Bellingham	391,682	399,686	2.0%	238,336	257,264	7.9%
Bremerton	134,209	153,828	14.6%	89,355	105,001	17.5%
Camas	34,601	33,725	-2.5%	9,907	9,606	-3.0%
Centralia	65,096	62,854	-3.4%	36,610	35,990	-1.7%
Chehalis	73,531	79,938	8.7%	52,444	59,407	13.3%
Colville	35,881	37,854	5.5%	23,351	26,056	11.6%
Des Moines	42,315	43,137	1.9%	21,364	22,223	4.0%
Edmonds	126,049	124,436	-1.3%	75,728	74,692	-1.4%
Ellensburg	72,071	68,015	-5.6%	36,264	42,192	16.3%
Everett	571,750	561,063	-1.9%	319,051	323,802	1.5%
Federal Way	322,671	330,303	2.4%	216,918	225,543	4.0%
Fife	130,170	136,514	4.9%	72,679	79,474	9.3%
Issaquah	259,492	270,432	4.2%	153,001	169,417	10.7%
Kelso	57,709	52,748	-8.6%	39,571	36,171	-8.6%
Kennewick	278,900	309,149	10.8%	195,988	215,265	9.8%
Kent	574,439	562,384	-2.1%	228,570	215,501	-5.7%
Kirkland	355,692	329,792	-7.3%	197,687	194,266	-1.7%
Lacey	120,371	137,582	14.3%	73,467	87,231	18.7%
Longview	146,684	154,152	5.1%	85,820	92,205	7.4%
Lynnwood	486,312	482,082	-0.9%	355,274	362,927	2.2%
Marysville	107,309	105,477	-1.7%	62,311	62,016	-0.5%
Mercer Island	69,810	66,653	-4.5%	14,630	13,685	-6.5%
Moses Lake	98,810	96,798	-2.0%	60,667	58,330	-3.9%
Mount Vernon	110,194	120,652	9.5%	74,886	83,537	11.6%
Mountlake Terrace	37,058	40,977	10.6%	17,089	15,287	-10.5%
Oak Harbor	63,224	66,514	5.2%	40,407	44,268	9.6%
Olympia	367,247	390,796	6.4%	230,139	250,585	8.9%
Omak	26,517	27,501	3.7%	19,960	20,852	4.5%
Pasco	131,809	150,169	13.9%	60,339	70,020	16.0%
Port Angeles	64,245	63,847	-0.6%	35,592	36,420	2.3%
Port Townsend	35,574	36,047	1.3%	18,170	17,510	-3.6%
Pullman	63,135	58,858	-6.8%	26,216	27,822	6.1%
Puyallup	362,441	381,886	5.4%	259,951	299,539	15.2%
Redmond	499,636	429,195	-14.1%	200,948	187,254	-6.8%
Renton	439,823	435,283	-1.0%	242,405	252,730	4.3%
Richland	116,952	141,850	21.3%	58,952	72,254	22.6%
SeaTac	209,517	170,745	-18.5%	36,042	32,875	-8.8%
Seattle	3,570,569	3,349,469	-6.2%	1,500,375	1,421,533	-5.3%
Shelton	39,446	45,479	15.3%	27,190	29,035	6.8%
Spokane	866,422	850,159	-1.9%	478,228	470,061	-1.7%
Sunnyside	54,581	56,028	2.7%	34,448	34,463	0.0%
Tacoma	910,915	979,120	7.5%	519,718	551,899	6.2%
Tukwila	603,550	493,377	-18.3%	349,775	336,977	-3.7%
Vancouver	543,927	531,607	-2.3%	281,438	284,594	1.1%
Walla Walla	109,126	107,491	-1.5%	55,234	55,754	0.9%
Wenatchee	143,279	150,342	4.9%	89,037	93,649	5.2%
Yakima	310,331	314,285	1.3%	184,541	183,570	-0.5%

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